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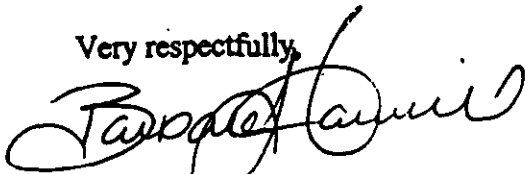
Larry Davis, Director
Veteran Services Division
County Courthouse
301 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301

28 February 2004

Dear Mr. Davis,

I recently received the attached letter from your office. I was surprised and disappointed to find out that a program designed to assist military families in the wake of reserve call-ups does not extend to those individuals who were activated immediately following, and directly in response to, the events of September 11, 2001. In fact, several members of my own reserve unit here in Tallahassee actually volunteered for recall in the days following the attack. It strikes me a shocking oversight by the Board of County Commissioners to exclude the very people who had the least amount of time to prepare and make arrangements, financial and otherwise, for their families before they were deployed. By making the effective date of this program, October 2002, a full year later than the beginning of the war in Afghanistan suggests that the Board has already forgotten those members of our community who were first on the front lines of the war on terror. This could not have been their intention and I await the rectification of this unfortunate and glaring omission.

Very respectfully,



Barbara J. Hamill, USNR

CC: Commissioner William Proctor
Commissioner Jane Sauls
Commissioner Dan Winchester
Commissioner Tony Grippa
Commissioner Bob Rackleff
Commissioner Rudy Maloy
Commissioner Cliff Thael